

11 Publication number : 0 558 210 A1

12 EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number : 93301051.4

51 Int. Cl.⁵ : H04B 7/005

22 Date of filing : 15.02.93

30 Priority : 24.02.92 US 840330

43 Date of publication of application :
01.09.93 Bulletin 93/35

84 Designated Contracting States :
DE FR GB SE

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54 Radio transceiver apparatus with booster.

57 A circuit arrangement which enables the transmission of a power level control signal through the coaxial cable (Ac) from a power control circuit (Cs) in a radio telephone to a power control circuit (Pc) in the booster. The low frequency control signal is connected through RC low pass filters.

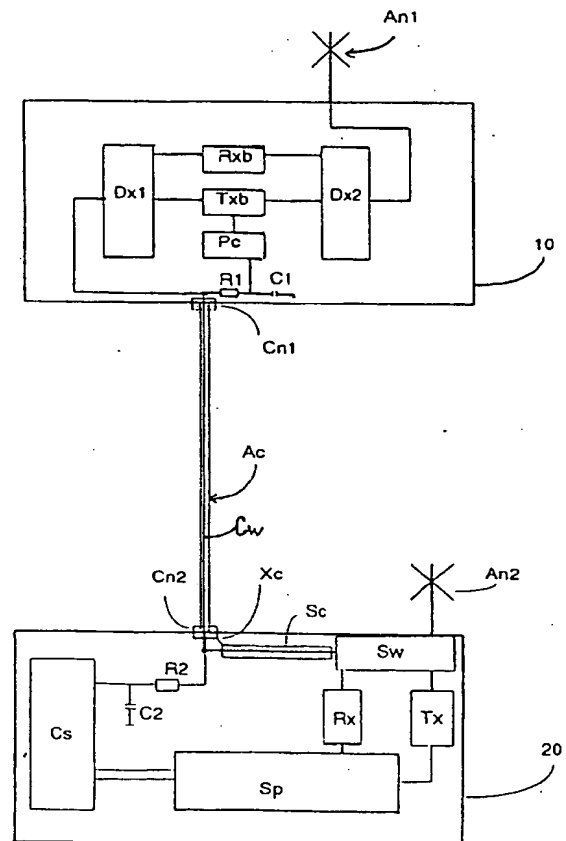


Fig. 1

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The invention relates to a circuit arrangement for controlling the amplification provided by a radio telephone booster.

In cellular radio telephone networks portable radio telephones have a low transmitting power, due to the limitations posed by the small size and weight, and also because the user should not be subjected to excessive radiofrequency radiation levels. When a portable radio telephone is used e.g. in a vehicle, it is usually connected to the vehicle antenna through an external power amplifier, a so-called booster amplifier or 'booster'. The booster amplifies the radio frequency signal transmitted from the portable radio telephone, so that the signal transmitted via the vehicle antenna will be within a preselected power level range. The booster is used to extend the range of the radio telephone, i.e. to increase the distance from a base station, still providing an acceptable radio service level to the user of the portable radio telephone.

The booster is usually mounted in a vehicle, e.g. a car or a boat, and provided with a vehicle antenna mounted at a suitable location on the vehicle surface and connected to the booster with a coaxial cable. The booster is usually also connected with a second coaxial cable to an adaptor, in which the portable radio telephone may be placed when used in the vehicle.

A typical prior art booster comprises a duplex filter, which connects the coaxial cable from the portable radio telephone to transmitting and receiving power amplifiers respectively, and a second duplex filter, which connects said power amplifiers to the vehicle coaxial cable. The signal path through the booster is thus a four wire connection, so that power amplification can be realized in both directions.

The booster further comprises a power control circuit. Cellular radio networks usually specify an adaptive power level control, so that the vehicle antenna transmit signal level is set to a level according to predefined rules, e.g. in accordance with a control signal received from a base station. Accordingly the power control circuit controls the transmit power amplifier output level. Due to cost reasons it is not considered advantageous to provide the booster with complete receiving circuits for the detection of the control signal. The detection of the control signal is provided in the mobile phone, and then sent to the booster power control circuit.

In prior art circuit arrangements the control signal is sent to the booster either through an unshielded conductor or through a shielded conductor. Both of these methods provide an efficient control of the booster power. However, both methods have serious drawbacks. In the portable radio telephone an unshielded conductor requires a corresponding connector, where the signal has to be filtered according to electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) requirements, and also the adaptor has to be provided with a corre-

sponding connector. Then the booster also requires a corresponding connector and filtering.

A separate shielded cable, usually a coaxial cable, requires corresponding coaxial connectors, where the shield must be connected to equipment earth. This is a difficult task in the portable radio telephone which often has no metallic body. Extra connectors are not convenient nor desirable in cellular radio telephone design as they are expensive and require a space which is large compared to the rest of the phone structure.

According to the present invention there is provided a circuit arrangement for controlling amplification by a radio telephone booster (10) of a signal transmitted to the booster (10) through RF coupling means from a radio telephone (20), the circuit arrangement comprising a power control circuit (Cs) in the radio telephone (20) and a power control circuit (Pc) in the booster characterised in that, the power control circuit (Cs) and the power control circuit (Pc) are coupled through the RF coupling means to enable the transmission of a power control signal from the power control circuit (Cs) to the power control circuit (Pc).

An embodiment of the invention is described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawing which is a schematic block diagram of a portable radio telephone coupled to a booster in accordance with the present invention.

The booster 10 is in this example maybe mounted in a car (not shown) and provided with a car antenna An1 mounted outside the car and connected to the booster with RF coupling means (not shown). The booster is usually also connected with a second RF coupling means normally a coaxial cable to an adaptor (not shown), in which the portable radio telephone 20 is placed, when used in a car.

The booster comprises, a duplex filter Dx1, which connects the coaxial cable Ac from the portable radio telephone to a three stage transmitting power amplifier Txb and to a one stage receiving amplifier Rxb, respectively, and a second duplex filter Dx2, which connects said power amplifiers to the car antenna An1. The signal path through the booster 10 is thus a four wire connection, so that the power amplification can be realized in both transmit and receive directions. The booster further comprises a power control circuit Pc, which controls the transmit power amplifier Txb output level. The coaxial cable Ac is connected to the booster through the coaxial connector Cn1 and to the portable radio telephone 20 through the coaxial connector Cn2.

The portable radio telephone 20 comprises a block Sw containing a duplex filter and an antenna switch, connecting the antenna output of the duplex filter to the portable radio telephone antenna An2, or in booster operation via a coaxial connection Sc and connector Cn2 to the coaxial cable Ac. The coaxial

shields are connected together, as is indicated at Xc. The portable radio telephone further comprises transmitter Tx and receiver Rx blocks, connected between the duplex filter and a block Sp containing signal processing and synthesizing circuits. The operation is controlled by a control circuit Cs, which may be realized as a microprocessor with known auxiliary circuits.

In accordance with the invention the antenna cable circuit arrangement comprises a low pass filter at each end of the coaxial cable Ac. The low pass filter in the portable radio telephone 20 comprises a resistor R2 and a capacitor C2, one leg of which is connected to the signal earth. The other leg of the capacitor C2 is connected to the output of the control circuit Cs and also to one leg of the resistor R2. The other leg of the resistor R2 is connected to the connection point between the center conductors Cw of the antenna cable and the coaxial connection Sc.

In the booster 10 the filter is arranged in a similar way. The low pass filter comprises a resistor R1 and a capacitor C1 one leg of which is connected to the signal earth. The other leg of the capacitor C1 is connected to the input of the control circuit Pc and also to one leg of the resistor R1. The other leg of the resistor R1 is connected to the connection point between the center conductor Cw of the antenna cable and the connection to the duplex filter Dx1.

In operation the control circuit Cs receives via receiver Rx a power level information signal from the base station, or alternatively the user of the portable radio telephone 20 may input information to that effect, which is processed in accordance with a suitable algorithm to produce a power control signal. A low frequency power control signal is output to the block Sp in handheld use, and in booster operation through the filter R2/C2, through the center conductor Cw of the coaxial cable Ac to the booster 10.

The booster receives the control signal through the filter R1/C1 at the control circuit Pc input. In accordance with the control signal the control circuit Pc outputs a signal to the amplifier stages, thus setting the transmit level as required.

The frequency of the control signal is substantially lower than the frequency of the transmission signal, so that the filters R1/C1 and R2/C2 will pass the control signal but substantially filter off the transmission signal. The frequency of the transmission signal may be e.g. between 890 MHz and 960 MHz. Correspondingly the capacitors found in the transmission signal path and in the amplifier circuits are in the order of pico-Farads or tens of pico-Farads, which ensures an adequate attenuation of the low frequency control signal.

The circuit arrangement in accordance with the invention does not require any extra connections, as it uses the existing coaxial cable Ac and connectors Cn1, Cn2. The antenna cable has to be adequately

shielded and connected, so that the EMC requirements are fulfilled. The addition of the control signal does not change this requirement. No extra filtering is required, as would be the case with a separate cable. The inventive concept requires small filter circuits in the portable radio telephone 20 and in the booster 10. As these are realized as low-cost resistive/capacitive low pass filters, they require a very small space, e.g. as an integrated element on the printed board.

In view of the foregoing it will be clear to a person skilled in the art that modifications may be incorporated without departing from the scope of the present invention.

Claims

1. A circuit arrangement for controlling amplification by a radio telephone booster (10) of a signal transmitted to the booster (10) through RF coupling means from a radio telephone (20), the circuit arrangement comprising a power control circuit (Cs) in the radio telephone (20) and a power control circuit (Pc) in the booster characterised in that, the power control circuit (Cs) and the power control circuit (Pc) are coupled through the RF coupling means to enable the transmission of a power control signal from the power control circuit (Cs) to the power control circuit (Pc).
2. Circuit arrangement according to claim 1, characterized in that the power control circuit (Cs) of the radio telephone is arranged to output a control signal having a frequency lower than the frequency of the transmission signal.
3. A circuit arrangement according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the RF coupling means comprises a coaxial cable (Ac) having a central signal conductor (Cw).
4. A circuit arrangement according to claim 3, characterized in that a low pass filter is disposed between the signal conductor (Cw) and the control circuit (Cs), the filter passing the control signal but substantially attenuating the transmission signal.
5. A circuit arrangement according to claim 3, characterized in that a low pass filter is disposed between the signal conductor (Cw) and the control circuit (Pc), the filter passing the control signal but substantially attenuating the transmission signal.
6. A circuit arrangement according to claim 3 or

claim 4, **characterized** in that the low pass filter comprises resistance means (R1; R2) and capacitance means (C1; C2).

7. A circuit arrangement according to claim 5, **characterized** in that the low pass filter is formed as part of an integrated circuit. 5
8. A radio telephone comprising RF coupling means adapted to transmit a power control signal. 10
9. A radio telephone power booster comprising RF coupling means adapted to receive a power control signal. 15

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European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 93 30 1051

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 387, no. 14 (E-967)21 August 1990 & JP-A-21 42 229 (JAPAN RADIO CO LTD) * abstract *	1,3,8,9	H04B7/005
Y		2,4,5	
A		6,7	
Y	DE-A-1 466 555 (TELEFUNKEN PATENTVERWERTUNGS-GMBH) * page 2, line 10 - line 23; claims 1,5 *	2,4,5	
X	EP-A-0 392 132 (MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI) * claim 1 *	1,8,9	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			H04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 06 MAY 1993	Examiner GOULDING C.A.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure F : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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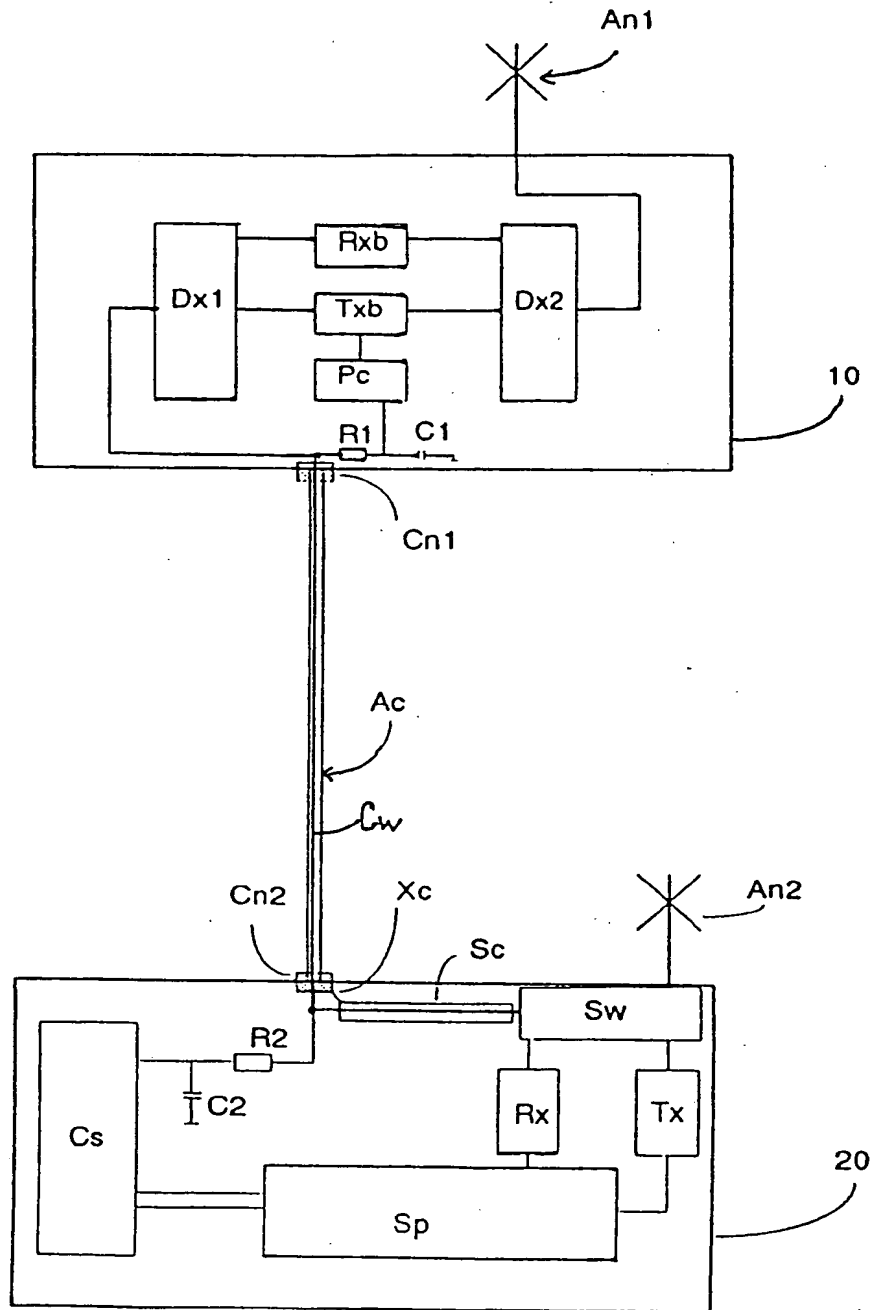


Fig. 1